

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 146

By Farmer

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Gerald R. "Jerry" Cox, Jr., on his selection as the 2022-2023 Sevier County School System Grades 5-8 Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest-quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Gerald R. "Jerry" Cox, Jr., is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox has been selected as the 2022-2023 Sevier County School System Grades 5-8 Teacher of the Year, a most befitting honor that recognizes the positive influence he has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, a fifth-grade math and social studies teacher at Catlettsburg Elementary School, Jerry Cox has taught for nineteen years; he is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Management from Carson-Newman College in 1988 and a Master of Science degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2005; in 2006, he earned an Education Specialist degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Lincoln Memorial University; and

WHEREAS, throughout the course of his career, Mr. Cox has consistently received a level-five rating for the Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System, a score that only twenty-six percent of fifth-grade math teachers achieved in the 2021-2022 school year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox has assisted with the development of school system leadership on numerous occasions with activities such as Best Practices training and the school leadership committee; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Cox has been selected as Teacher of the Year and Teacher of the Month on several occasions; and

WHEREAS, an exceptional and influential leader in his community, Mr. Cox is actively involved as an advocate and supporter of numerous local organizations, including United Way, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Sevier County Food Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox serves as an inspiration to his colleagues and students alike, and his friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Cox truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Gerald R. "Jerry" Cox, Jr., on being chosen as the 2022-2023 Sevier County School System Grades 5-8 Teacher of the Year, commend his exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.